BULLETIN from

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Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service & 317 West 4th Street

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SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT: No. 1 *How-To Books for Home Living*

Edited by Robert Kingery

This is our first special supplement on "how-to" books. We suggest you keep this in an active file. The present do-it-yourself trend is reflected in an increasing number of current titles. Thus, it has been necessary to limit the list. "How-to books for home living" seemed a natural grouping, covering what seemed to be the most-wanted subjects. This supplement is devoted to books published in the last several years which should prove useful in almost any home. Books on sports, the collecting and creative hobbies, are not included this time.

A guide to the "how-to" field in its broadest sense is available in Robert Kingery's HOW-TO-DO-IT BOOKS: A SELECTED GUIDE. Bowker $4.50. It includes books published through December, 1953.

Building & Remodeling Houses

Townsend, Gilbert & Dalzell, J. R. HOW TO PLAN A HOUSE American Technical. $6.95

Straight-from-the-shoulder, practical advice on construction details, planning of different rooms and the function and interpretation of floor plans and working drawings.

Kennedy, Robert W. THE HOUSE AND THE ART OF ITS DESIGN Reinhold. $9.00

A little expensive, but a good antidote to some of the poisonous little houses in the newer housing developments. Discusses the factors of style, appearance, structure, site, and room arrangement to suit the needs of individual members in the family.

Ford, Katherine & Creighton, Thomas Reinhold. $4.95
QUALITY BUDGET HOUSES: A TREASURY OF ONE HUNDRED ARCHITECT-DESIGNED HOUSES FROM $5,000 TO $20,000

A further antidote to the ordinary and the mediocre in new houses. Plans and photographs demonstrating that good taste is not just a matter of money.

Dietz, Albert G. DWELLING HOUSE CONSTRUCTION Van Nostrand. $7.50

This practical guide to construction methods is worth the careful attention of every home buyer because of its comprehensiveness and authority. Includes a chapter on the new development of panel construction.

Hawkins, Reginald R. & Abbe, C. H. McGraw-Hill. $6.50
NEW HOUSES FROM OLD; A GUIDE TO THE PLANNING AND PRACTICE OF HOUSE REMODELING

Sound, thorough and practical, Many concrete examples and specific procedures.

Shimmons, Earl W. HOME BUILDING & REPAIR SHORT CUTS Simmons-Boardman. $4.50

Formerly called PRACTICAL JOB POINTERS, a more exact but less attractive title. This is an illustrated handbook of unusual tips, hints and practical procedures.

Van Den Branden, Felicien & Knowles, Mark — American Technical Society. $4.90
PLASTERING SKILL AND PRACTICE

Although this is an apprentice-training text, it can be used equally well for self-instruction by the amateur handyman who needs to know plastering procedures and practical methods.

Mix, Floyd M. & Pritchard, E. C. ALL ABOUT HOUSE WIRING Goodheart-Wilcox. $2.50

Covers both wiring a new home and modernizing old wiring.

Wolf, R. J. WISE HANDBOOK OF HOME PLUMBING Wise. $1.95

Includes installation and repairing.

Home Improvement

Hawkins, Reginald R. & Abbe, C. H. — Van Nostrand. $4.00
THE KITCHEN BOOK--- PLANNING AND REMODELING

A comprehensive, practical guide to planning, equipping and decorating, with specific instructions for hanging cabinets, putting down floors, installing counter tops and appliances. The goal is convenient, attractive, multi-purpose kitchens.

Treves, Ralph THE COMPLETE BOOK OF BASEMENT IMPROVEMENT; HOW TO ADD NEW ROOMS TO YOUR HOME. Wyn. $4.95

Specific, step-by-step guide to building utility and recreation rooms with attention to planning, materials, floor and ceiling coverings, electrical installations, carpentry and the problem of dampness.

Scharff, Robert IMPROVE YOUR HOME WITH BUILT-INS McGraw-Hill. $4.95

Presents unusual designs, detailed plans and specific working procedures for creating storage and utility space and storage units.

Ostrow, Albert PLANNING YOUR HOME FOR PLAY Tupper & Love. $3.50

How to plan, arrange and equip backyards, basements, attics, workshops, living rooms and children's rooms for play and recreation.

Hawkins, Reginald R. & Abbe, C. H. — Garden City. $2.95
HOME MECHANIC'S OUTDOOR HANDBOOK

Step-by-step instructions for building driveways, fences, garden equipment and furniture, grills, terraces and walks.

Leckey, Wayne — Popular Mechanics. $3.50
POPULAR MECHANICS' HOW TO BUILD YOUR OWN GARAGE

Simple, explicit, illustrated discussion covering design, materials, painting, and that difficult business of hanging doors.

Running the House

Gilbreth, Lillian E. & others MANAGEMENT IN THE HOME; Dodd, Mead. $3.95
HAPPIER LIVING THROUGH SAVING TIME AND ENERGY

This applies management engineering techniques to the homemaking job with amazing results in efficiency, ease and interest.

Adams, Charlotte HOUSEKEEPING AFTER OFFICE HOURS; Harper. $3.00
A HOMEMAKING GUIDE FOR THE WORKING WOMAN

It's largely a matter of daily and weekly schedules for cleaning, laundry, food planning, marketing and preparation, and then of course the strength-of-character to stick to the schedules. This will help on both scores. Useful information on evaluating appliances and how to avoid the pure gadget that is more trouble than it's worth.

Moore, Alma HOW TO CLEAN EVERYTHING: Simon & Schuster. $3.00
AN ENCYCLOPEDIA OF WHAT TO USE AND HOW TO USE IT

An encyclopedia, alphabetically arranged for quick and effective use.

St. Gaudens, Paul & Jackson, Arthur Bramford. $2.00
HOW TO MEND CHINA AND BRIC-A-BRAC

How to put dolls, glass, china, etc., together again. Covers equipment, materials, and sources of supply.

Crouse, William H. EVERYDAY HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCE REPAIRS McGraw. $4.95

Includes both indoor and outdoor appliances and electrical equipment.

Food

American Home Economics Association 50¢
HANDBOOK OF FOOD PREPARATION
Food & Nutrition Division, American Home Economics Association,
1600 20th St., N.W., Washington 9, D.C.

A highly useful and relatively little-known book, primarily intended for the professional economist, but full of information-not usually included in cookbooks-which all cooks ought to have.

Stover, Blanche PARENTS' MAGAZINE FAMILY COOKBOOK McGraw-Hill. $3.95

The only cookbook specifically directed to the needs of a family with children. Mostly basic recipes with simple variations indicated. Covers school lunch boxes and foods for convalescent children.

Roberson, John & Marie COMPLETE SMALL APPLIANCE COOKBOOK Wyn. $2.95

Recipes and instructions on the care and use of infra-red broilers, rotisseries, portable roaster ovens, casseroles, deep fryers, electric grills, waffle irons and various mixers and blenders. These newer appliances are selling well and interest in this book should be substantial.

Maclinn, Walter RUTGERS FOOD SAVER Rutgers. $2.95

Safe storage of food, use of leftovers and what to do with doubtful food.

Sewing

Picken, Mary Brooks SINGER SEWING BOOK McGraw-Hill. $3.95

This is the basic guide, encyclopedic in its coverage of all kinds of sewing, including interior decorating. Includes information on sewing plastic and synthetic materials.

Goodman, Bonnie, V. Prentice-Hall. $3.95
THE COMPLETE BOOK OF FAMILY TAILORING

All sorts of clothes for women, men and children. Similar to but more comprehensive than her: TAILORING FOR THE FAMILY. Prentice. $4.95

Ryan, Mildred Scribner. $2.95
THRIFT WITH A NEEDLE; THE COMPLETE BOOK OF MENDING

Lists equipment, illustrates and describes basic methods and stitches and shows how to darn, patch and mend lingerie, clothing, linens and upholstery.

Decorating

Ogg, Elizabeth DECORATING ON A BUDGET Barrows. $4.50

Does what the title promises. Suggests real money-saving ways of salvaging and using inexpensive materials.

Williams, Henry & Ottalie NEW ROOMS FOR OLD Harper. $3.50

A husband and wife team give clear, practical guidance, assuming limited funds and some ability in carpentry. Principles of planning, use of color and design with discussions of specific problems such as windows, doors, radiators, fireplaces, etc.

Cheskin, Louis HOW TO COLOR-TUNE YOUR HOME Macmillan. $5.00

Selecting colors for harmony and good psychological effect. With color charts.

Grotz, George FROM GUNK TO GLOW; OR, THE GENTLE ART OF REFINISHING ANTIQUES AND OTHER FURNITURE $1.00
Furniture Doctor, Town Clerk's Corner, Killingworth, Conn. Paper.

Delightful and full of good sense and unusual information. Recommended for reading even if you don't intend to finish furniture.

Hardy, Kay HOW TO PAINT AND WALL-PAPER Funk. $3.50

Pope, Blanche R. UPHOLSTERING HOME FURNITURE Bennett. $4.50

Brown, Sam PLANNING YOUR HOME WORKSHOP Popular Mechanics. $2.50

Frankl, Lee BASIC TOOLS FOR WOODWORKING Prentice-Hall. $3.25

Really effective, clear explanation of the various hand tools and their use.

Hamilton, Edwin G. POWER TOOLS FOR THE HOME CRAFTSMAN McGraw-Hill. $4.95

Information on planning the home workshop and specific power tools such as the circular saw, jointer, band saw, scroll saw, lathe, drill press, sander, grinder and shaper.

Things to Make

Feirer, John L. ADVANCED WOODWORK AND FURNITURE MAKING Bennett. $4.95

Assumes mastery of hand tools and availability of power machines. Covers design, planning, construction and finishing.

Grabe, Klaus BUILD YOUR OWN MODERN FURNITURE Fawcett. Paper. 75¢

Designs, using plywood for material.

Dal Fabbro, Mario HOW TO BUILD MODERN FURNITURE Dodge. Two vols.ea. $6.00

The first volume is a detailed discussion of construction methods and problems while the second covers designs and assembly techniques, including joints between wood and glass and in plastic materials. Excellent gift for the home craftsman.

Cherner, Norman HOW TO BUILD CHILDREN'S TOYS AND FURNITURE McGraw-Hill. $3.95

Two hundred designs and plans, including specifications and discussion of woodworking and finishing techniques.

Canby, Edward T. HOME MUSIC SYSTEMS; HOW TO BUILD AND ENJOY THEM Harper. $3.95

Non-technical discussion of hi-fi phonograph and radio equipment and systems.

Lynch, John HOW TO MAKE MOBILES Crowell. $3.00

Materials, principles and patterns in text and pictures.

Rex, Stella CHOICE HOOKED RUGS Prentice-Hall. $6.00

Good discussion of design, color, equipment, methods, cleaning, mending and the various types of rugs.

Pets

Roosevelt, Leila & Westley, Bill Harper. $3.50
PET PARADE

Choice, training and feeding of a wide variety of animals, including many unusual ones. Good idea-book for the person looking for something other than a dog, cat, fish or birds.

Whitney, Leon F. THE COMPLETE BOOK OF DOG CARE Doubleday. $3.95

This is a comprehensive, authoritative reference handbook on first aid, diagnosis and treatment of disease, feeding, grooming, etc.

Bryant, Doris Ives Washburn. $2.75
DORIS BRYANT'S CAT BOOK

Sound, up-to-date information on most aspects of cat care.

Poe, Bernard (Pseud. of Leon Hausman) Putnam. $2.50
THE CARE AND TRAINING OF HOME CAGE BIRDS

Pocket handbook of general information with major attention to canaries, but including parrots, parrakeets and other small birds.

Gohm, Douglas Van Nostrand. $6.95
TROPICAL FISH IN THE HOME

Setting up the aquarium and the selection, care and feeding of fish.

Entertaining

Coggins, Carolyn A. SUCCESSFUL ENTERTAINING AT HOME: Prentice-Hall. $4.95
A COMPLETE GUIDE FOR INFORMAL ENTERTAINING

Includes excellent recipes.

Shallcross, John E. THE COMPLETE PICNIC BOOK A. S. Barnes. $3.00

Includes instructions for playing picnic games.

Haney, Germaine SHOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS: $2.75
A HANDBOOK OF COMPLETE INFORMATION FOR ALL TYPES OF SHOWERS
T. S. Denison & Co., 321 Fifth Ave., So., Minneapolis, 15, Minn.

Invitations, menus, decorations and entertainment.

London, Robert & Anne World. $2.75
COCKTAILS AND SNACKS

Both simple and elaborate recipes to surprise and please your friends.

Maguire, Clyde Abingdon. $1.95
THE COKESBURY DINNER AND BANQUET BOOK

Includes entertainment suggestions that can be used in a variety of situations where eating together is involved.

Van Rensselaer, Alexander Sheridan. $3.50
THE COMPLETE BOOK OF PARTY GAMES

Ice-breakers, indoor and outdoor games, contests and things to do after dinner.

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JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

Steiner, Charlotte — Doubleday
KIKI LOVES MUSIC — Paper & board; $1.50

Red-headed Kiki has won many friends in a series of picture story books, as she skates, dances, goes to camp, etc. This seems a younger Kiki, at the stage when her attempts to make music (by singing, or playing on a comb, or tapping on her glass, or experimenting with nursery instruments) are hailed by her father as "What a noise!" But when a piano comes, she finds that using all ten fingers takes more than wishful thinking, and it is a triumph when she learns to play her first tune, on her daddy's birthday. A successful use - up to a point - of important material. (Publ. LC: 54-8912)

Worm, Piet — Random House
THREE LITTLE HORSES — Cloth spine; $2.95

* A hoax in Holland comes to light when an artist befriends three little horses hinting for something exciting to do. From the meadow to the town they all go and the artist, being an artist, dresses them up in princesses' costumes whereupon the little horses are taken for members of the royal family until the trick is discovered, punished and forgiven. To those who have seen Piet Worm's work the high color and heavy outline of his drawings and the patness of his text will be familiar. Book size is a whopping 17½ x 7¼", so stock accordingly. Firmly stitched. Large script type. (Publ.)

Dennis, Morgan — Viking
HIMSELF AND BURLAP ON TV — Cloth; $2.00

Dennis fans will have already encountered Burlap the basset hound and Himself, whose blood lines were tangled. Now they come together in a book that young TV addicts will love. For they are entered in a contest for TV talent - and with Himself's capacity for playing the fool, and Burlap's inability to keep abreast of him, they wow the public, and split the prize. The publishers tell us that there's going to be a dog show on TV and Morgan Dennis will MC it, with Himself and Burlap (as dog sized puppets) playing their parts. And this book is a natural for joint production. (Publ.)

BOOKS-TO-READ- ALOUD

Smiley, Virginia K. — Abelard-Schuman
LITTLE BOY NAVAJO — Cloth; $2.50

A simple story of a Navajo boy has a desert calmness to it as it describes his efforts to prove himself capable of herding the family sheep. Determined that his father a silversmith, and his mother a weaver, shall keep at their trades, Little Boy rides out one day, saves a lamb from a rattlesnake and convinces his parents that he is man enough. Stylized pictures in Navajo colors by an Indian artist Tom Two Arrows have a dignity to them. Good. Average type. Firm stitching. (Publ. LC: 54-10215)

Smith, Dorothy Hall- *Ed.* Harper
THE TALL BOOK OF CHRISTMAS Paper over board; $1.00

A happy anthology for the season presents 29 Christmas stories and poems from as many different sources. There are verses from St. Luke, the Old English carol "I Saw Three Ships", Clement Moore's "The Night Before Christmas", Catherine Woolley's story "The Puppy Who Wanted A Boy"- and lots more for the holiday hours. Illustrated with warm color and black and white drawings by Gertrude Elliott Espencheid, and the book's size 12¼ x 5¼" has a candy cane appeal. Average type. Good stitching. (Publ. LC: 54-9002)

Dalgliesh, Alice Scribner
THE THANKSGIVING STORY $2.50

* A quiet dignity and a sense of the momentous mark Miss Dalgliesh's story of the first months of the *Mayflower* settlement. In particular, it is the voyage and settlement as seen through the Hopkins, their children- Giles, Constance and Demaris- and Oceanus, the baby born during the voyage. The historical aspects have been well combined with the personal. As the *Mayflower* and the ill fated *Speedwell* set out, there is the religious background of the Pilgrims, the reasons for their sailing and the picture of the many different kinds of travellers- Alden the carpenter, Miles Standish the soldier. Arrival in Massachusetts is filled with relief and hope and as the settlers face their first miserable year there is a sense of immediacy to their problems. And there are the blessings too as friendships are made with the Indians Samoset, Squanto and Massasoit, and as the settlers reap their first harvest and meet for their first Thanksgiving. Helen Sewell's colored pictures have an early American quality and have been excellently matched with the text. Recommended for reading aloud. Large type. Insubstantial stitching. (Publ.)

Parsons, Arthur H. Jr. Franklin Watts
THE HORN THAT STOPPED THE BAND Cloth; $2.50

Terry's French horn strikes a sour note, but there's sweetness forthcoming as Parson's funny story and Lynd Ward's full blown drawings follow the cadences of a minor musical disaster. When his horn just goes "phloo", Terry's sent from the school band to the principal, to the city-band, to the symphony orchestra before it's finally discovered that a pea has been blocking his playing. The final flourish has Terry in the orchestra too. Polished and properly regaled. Fun. Average type. (Publ. LC: 54-9821)

Schrank, Joseph Franklin Watts
THE CELLO IN THE BELLY OF THE PLANE Cloth; $2.50

Department of odd circumstances here- when Lou a ten year old cellist takes a plane trip and prevents a panic by giving his first concert. Safe on the way to his cousin, Lou is fascinated by the flight when an emergency arises. The landing wheel won't come down, but Lou's playing calms the passengers until a landing can be made and the situation is carried off with aplomb. Wiry drawings- like U.P.A. cartoons- by Erika Weihs- have an apt nonchalance for this special item. Bright. Large type. (11/10. LC: 54-9815)

Donaldson, Lois & Bilder, Arthur K. Whitman
SKYJETS Cloth; $1.75

A stilted wee book does an injustice to jets as it tells, in plodding phrase and poster-paint pictures, of twins Ann and Peter and how they dream that they own flying suits. After watching a tv program about flight, the kids fall asleep and at a dream birthday party get their "Skyjets", and fly to visit and astonish their grandmother before the bubble is pricked. Crude thrills, with a comic book appeal. Pictures by A. K. Bilder. Reinforced cloth spine. Medium type. Firm stitching. (Publ.)

Moore, Clement C. *with* Lippincott
Arthur Rackham pictures Cloth; $1.75
THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

Stocking book format, a new setting, new type face, redesigned jacket, for the beloved Rackham illustrations for the immortal poem. Here's a Must for the children who this year will hear *The Night Before Christmas* for the first time. The full pages in color, the line drawings with the irresistible Rackham doubletake (hunt for the pictures within the pictures) are exquisitely reproduced. (Publ.)

Brown, Marcia *Trans. by* Scribner
CINDERELLA Cloth; $2.00

This companion piece to the other fairy tales Marcia Brown has interpreted (see *Puss In Boots*, 1952, p. 548 and others) has the smoothness of a good translation and a unique charm to her feathery light pictures. The pictures have been done in sunset colors and the spreads on each page as they illustrate the story have the cumulative effect of soft cloud banks. Gentle. Firmly stitched. Average type. (Publ.)

Pyle, Howard Scribner
SOME MERRY ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD $2.50

For one who was brought up on the original Howard Pyle text, it is a concession to acknowledge that this selection of twelve of the stories has a better chance with today's youngsters than the longer text, with its antiquated language. Howard Pyle did this text - made this selection- before his death, for a school edition. Now reissued, with illustrations remade from the original drawings, this should serve as an ideal introduction to the Robin Hood saga. We read how he became an outlaw, how he met the best known of his comrades,- Little John, Will Stutely, Arthur a Bland, Will Scarlet, Friar Tuck and others. There's a generous variety of exploits, shooting matches, blows struck in defense of the poor, encounters with the Sheriff of Nottingham. And at the end, there's the meeting with King Richard- and the pardon. (LC: 54-11823) Publ.

EASY READING

Gruenberg, Benjamin C. & Doubleday
Adelson, Leone YOUR BREAKFAST $2.00
And the People Who Make It

Cereal, bread, milk, eggs, orange juice, sugar - in these items you have the ingredients for a majority of American breakfasts. And Dr. Gruenberg and Miss Adelson, both in the education field, have brought together the facts behind these things. They take the readers of inquiring mind to the grain fields, the dairy farms, the sugar cane and beet plantations, the orange groves, the chicken farms. And they've supplied the connecting links by which the original products are processed and brought to the tables of America. The facts are there- and Kurt Wiese has given the text a lively look. But somehow there isn't that vital spark that makes it interesting reading. In the hands of a gifted teacher, children's interest might be stimulated, but the direction seems above the primary level at which the subject is usually raised, while second and third graders might feel it was talked down to them. (10/21. LC: 54-9840).

FUN-TO-LEARN GOLDEN BOOKS

Simon & Schuster
Board. Ea. $1.00

Comment on the group as a whole. A good idea, though it has been used elsewhere, and often with greater imagination. This plays up to the somewhat literal minded child, who needs the picture-text tieup to hold interest. The books are uniformly attractive, with gay flat color work by good artists in the field (DeWitt, Krush, etc.). The covers are board with laminated overlay, and the books are sturdily stitched. The texts are uneven in difficulty, demanding some adult supervision. And the quality of the writing, too, is uneven. Where prose is used, it is adequate; but the verse scarcely ranks above doggerel.

Werner, Jane- THE GOLDEN PICTURE BOOK OF WORDS. Here's a vocabulary builder and at the same time an impetus to increased reading proficiency. While the type blocks seem to present more solid reading matter, the marginal sketches illustrating words used in the text should speed along the reading process. All sorts of familiar subjects are included:- houses, families, clothes, food, toys, games, stores, pets, school, park, city, farm, tools, machines, circus, birds, plants, animals, weather, travel, and in a few instances, particular concepts, such as What we want to be - or Friends around the world.

Jackson, Kathryn- THE GOLDEN PICTURE BOOK OF SCHOOL DAYS. Complete recall, in words and pictures, of the things experienced and learned in school, day by day, of observation heightened on walks, of play games, school gardens, stimulus to collecting, manual work with clay, and so on. Children love to share their experiences, and this- at an easy reading level- helps build their sense of participation.

Osswald, Edith & Reed, Mary A.- THE GOLDEN PICTURE BOOK OF NUMBERS. The goal is effortless learning of what numbers mean, what they can do, the part they play in daily living. Perhaps- with an interested adult using this as a sort of progressively difficult game- this would meet that goal. But, for the second grade reader, for whom, presumably, this series is planned, the text is too difficult- the pictures alone not enough A great deal is crowded into the pages,- color, time, concepts of calendar, of high and low, of order (first, second, etc.- not always consistently), and addition, subtraction, how many, how much - much of it within the average child's comprehension, some of it beyond.

Moore, Lilian- THE GOLDEN PICTURE DICTIONARY. This is a step up from *The Golden Dictionary* as a learning tool, for here are familiar words (800 of them) defined and used, with the different meanings and the different word forms, singular and plural, and in different tenses for the verbs Not every word is illustrated, but so large a proportion of them that the pictures help carry the ideas. This should help encourage children to learn how to use a dictionary a bit more difficult But frankly, the number of words is so relatively small, that one wonders whether the jump couldn't be made without this interim step.

EIGHT TO ELEVEN- Fiction

Spies, Victor C. Follett
SUN DANCE *And The Great Spirit* $2.50

A winning story of an Indian boy growing to maturity in the period when the first white traders came through the mountains. At the start it seems like any competent story of Indian life, but as the theme develops, and Sun Dance learns to weigh basic values, one realizes that here is a story that cuts below the surface, and carries not only a warm portrait of a boy but a fundamental lesson. The story tells chiefly of days of trapping,- with snares, with the new steel traps - and of how a little black skunk and a marauding mountain lion came to be specific goals. The pencil sketches by Lorence F. Bjorklund add immeasureably to the book. (Late Oct.- LC: 54-10100)

Williams, Ellis, Amabel & Willis, Euan Cooper LAUGHING GAS AND SAFETY LAMP — Abelard-Schuman $2.50

A quiet biography of Humphry Davy is a demonstration of worldly achievement- assiduously and deliberately attained, begins with his boyhood in Penzance and an indifferent schooling which left him free to talk to local mine captains and inventors, and to exercise his fine powers of observation and reflection. Poverty put him to work at 15 as an apprentice to a doctor; on the side he experimented in chemistry, then became the protege of an unorthodox professor. His experiments with laughing gas should have formed the basis for anesthesia- but were ignored. However success was not slow to follow, and his lectures, experiments and discoveries brought him fame by his early thirties, helped him to make a wealthy marriage, led to his most famous discovery of the safety lamp. If not a dynamic figure, his story is an encouraging one- and is recorded for older readers in this age group and younger ones in the next. Staid, speckled line drawings by Serena Chance. (10/14 LC: 54-10216)

Adventures in Geography Series — Hanover House- Garden City
10/5 — Paper over board. $1.00 each

Carpenter, Shirley & Neurath, Marie- ICEBERGS AND JUNGLES. Illustrated by Michael Charlton & Marjorie Saynor. This is really the story of climate, done in an intensely concentrated text, expanded by loads of pictures in color. The whys of climate- of seasons- of rain are considered along with some pertinent facts as people learn to live with what fate has given them. The tropics- the land of perpetual cold- the temperate zones, north and south of the equator, with certain areas viewed as ideal- the sub tropics- the deserts - the mountains- the jungles - the grasslands- here they are with their likes and differences. Good supplementary material, in reading difficulty a bit beyond the grade level at which the subject is first encountered. Color-gravure illustrations will help over the hurdles.

Carpenter, Shirley; Neurath, Marie & Irwin, Stewart. MOUNTAINS AND VALLEYS- The same problem of language difficulty will be encountered here, and the subject matter is, perhaps, less familiar. Is it perhaps a differential due to the English origin of the material? Here is the subject of what mountains and valleys signify geographically, economically, socially. Here too is the purely physical aspect - how they were formed, the different rock structures. Most of the text is closely related to shadow relief maps, and more explanation of how they differ from the familiar type of school geography map would have been advisable. Again a book for supplementary use, in hope that the quite lovely pictures in colorgravure will carry third to fifth graders over the difficulties.

Land and Peoples Volumes — Holiday House
Publ. — Cloth- $1.75. Boards- $1.25

Kenworthy, Leonard S.- BRAZIL. Twentieth volume in a series of slim books, beautifully made, and again illustrated by the gifted Rafaello Busoni. The text is objective, descriptive, compact, and helps stress those wide areas of Brazil which are vital to its future, and little known outside its boundaries. A good profile. (Publ.)

The Around the World Today Series — Franklin Watts
Ea. $2.75

A new series - not travel books nor supplementary geographies, but true stories of boys and girls living in countries today. The author-photographer has visited the homes of the children of whom he writes, taken his beautiful photographs on the spot, and is sharing with American boys and girls those things about how other children live that he feels will help for better international understanding and friendship. Other titles are in the making.

Buckley, Peter

Franklin Watts
Ea. $2.75

The Around the World Today Books
CESARE OF ITALY (10/25. LC:54-10912)
LUIS OF SPAIN (11/15. LC:54-10913)

* With his camera in hand and a good idea in his head, Peter Buckley profited from a life abroad by doing picture stories of the people he knew and with these two books he inaugurates a fine new juvenile series. The first, the daily life of ten year old Cesare Togni who lives on Lake Lugano, sets the pattern of well matched, informal text and excellent photographs that the others are to follow. Seen through Cesare's activities, the Togni's life is part of the heart of Italy. Though they live in Castello, a tiny town half an hour's steep walk up a mountain from the lake, Cesare's father is a shoemaker in the lake shore town of San Mamete and farms besides, in his small field part way up the mountain. Cesare goes to a parochial school, swims and plays with his friends and helps his elders at work. There is a climax to the story when he makes a Saint's Day present for his mother and takes an all day excursion to Monte Bre across the lake...Like Cesare's, Luis' story has the vigour and freshness of a real boy alive today. Eleven and the oldest boy in a good sized family, Luis Guillot lives on his father's farm just outside Valencia. Methods are simple- the irrigation system dates from Arab influence, and Luis who must work hard in a land with a teacher shortage as well, has little time for school and depends on the visits of a travelling tutor. But his days have their variation from farm routine. There is *paella* for Sunday dinner, the fascinating cave houses in nearby villages, the Spring festival and the time when Luis came to the rescue by making a cart for his dog to haul their wares to market. With these two books as a starter, the series has a good reputation to live up to.

First Books

Franklin Watts
Ea. $1.75

* Bendick, Jeanne- THE FIRST BOOK OF SUPERMARKETS- A wonderful idea- why hasn't it been done before? Here we see the supermarkets with their 3-4000 items, with the special services they give, with all the departments (meat, groceries, fruit and vegetables, frozen foods, dairy products, delicatessen, and household equipment) and the answers to the How - Whence - Why. Children ask endless questions; here are many of the answers, far more than most adults could answer for themselves. A modern way of marketing, geared to the customers' convenience, is given its due. Modern style illustrations seem appropriate to the topic- by the author. (10/15. LC: 54-9823)

Bothwell, Jean- THE FIRST BOOK OF ROADS- All ages are fascinated by the questions highway traffic stimulates. And the story of roads is in itself a story of communication at a basic level, a story of trade and travel and invention. The story is simply told, from the deer trails to the super highways of today; from the trade routes and the caravan tracks, to the discovery of the wheel- and a revolution that led to the automobile and a new page of history. This too is the story of some famous roads,- the Appian Way of Rome, Watling Street in England, the Inca highways of South America and the Wilderness Road of North America. With the coming of the automobile there was a speed up of invention in new surfacing, new ways of building highways. A lot is packed into these pages. W.R. Lohse illustrations in browns and black have captured the imaginative aspects as well as interpreting the facts. (11/15. LC: 54-9822)

* Epstein, Sam & Beryl- THE FIRST BOOK OF WORDS- Report repeated from p. 234 of the April 1st bulletin when this was scheduled for June publication reads as follows: "An excellent first text on the origins of speech and writing and the fascinating ways they have changed through the ages. In simplified form here is word history written with accuracy and a zest that should pull the shortest of the "short hairs". That "hello" was invented with the telephone sets up the principle that words follow on needs- and the stage for a look at early wordless man. From then on it's smooth sailing into many branches of philology- language development, divisions of the Indo-European trunk, how one language can

First Books cont'd.

influence many others (Latin, for example), linguistic similarities, word roots, the gap between spelling and pronunciation, grammar lags, changes in word meanings, how slang is made and so on. Very good going. Appropriate illustrations by Lazlo Roth." On seeing final page proof of this, we are even more enthusiastic now- especially about the story quality of Roth's airy pictures. (9/29. LC: 54-5947)

* Hoke, Helen- THE FIRST BOOK OF DOLLS- There have been a great many books on dolls, but most of them have been long and many of them stodgy. This is done in very brief text, lots of pictures- fascinating ones with gay flat color - by Jean Michener- and expanded captions. The end result is a unity that suffers by separation. So this is a book to see- not to read aloud. A book that is virtually an illustrated historical record of dolls of all times and all places and all kinds, from the make-believe stick and rag dolls, through dolls that were made for a purpose (fashion dolls, character dolls, regional dolls) to the modern trick dolls which pay no homage to a child's imagination. There is something of doll houses, too; of paper dolls, and of doll characters in story books. A sure favorite. (11/15. LC: 54-9819)

* Hughes, Langston- THE FIRST BOOK OF JAZZ- Hughes' appraisal and short history of jazz is a poet's and an appreciator's and thus makes a warm, relishing account of the music we can really call our own. To set the scene, there's an opening description of the New Orleans of Louis Armstrong's youth- the day of the spasm bands and their playing that marked the basic quality of jazz- playing for fun. Tracing the influences then, fascinating material emerges in the comments on early West African rhythms and the first Negro-White contacts; the characteristics of improvisation and movement rather than pre-composing and listening; the first southern brass and the sidewheeler bands; Negro songs- spiritual, minstrel and blues; and in 1800 the first "ragtime" bands that got their name from literally "tearing a tune to tatters". Completing his cycle, Hughes picks up Armstrong's story again and in portraying his life as the life of modern jazz, explains many of its parts- syncopation, counter melodies, the different beats and so forth. A good grasp of the subject for any age. Illustrated with U.P.A. style pictures by Cliff Roberts. (LC: 54-9820)

TWELVE TO FIFTEEN- Fiction

Johnson, James Ralph — Follett
LOST ON HAWK MOUNTAIN — $2.50

Falconry is- we are told- of growing interest to boys at the scout age. There's a great deal of sound content material on the subject, not only of training hawks for hunting, but of some of the side values experience with them teaches. And this story of the southern Appalachians has packed it in. There's adventure, too, as the boys with an older man are marooned by a landslide, and have to use all their outdoor lore. Perhaps the content will outweigh the rather contrived plot and thin characterization. And the author's stunning line drawings add both a decorative and informative note. (Late Oct. LC: 54-10103)

Sutcliff, Rosemary — Oxford
THE EAGLE OF THE NINTH — $2.75

* A fresh background this, and one that is its own reward in an unusual story of Britain under Roman suzerainty. The conflict with the native tribes was sporadic, and demanded the Roman Legions. Marcus Flavius Aquila, whose father had commanded the First Cohort of the Ninth Legion- lost, unexplained, somewhere in Britain, is on his first command when the story opens. By its close, he has won his honors in a hard cause,- wounded, permanently crippled, in one action, achieving the impossible in reclaiming the lost eagle of his father's command- and clearing up the mystery of its disappearance. He has learned too what it means to accept defeat - to put down roots

in a new land- to find friendship and love. Maturely conceived, grounded in scholarship. The illustrations, by C. Walter Hodges, are in woodblock style, and for me detracted from the value of the text.

Strength of the Union Series Scribner
Publ. $3.00

* Sorenson, Virginia- THE HOUSE NEXT DOOR. One of the better titles in a series that presents stories of the states at the time of their making. Utah's story is one of the most dramatic, controversial and unusual. Virginia Sorenson, Utah born, knows the Mormon problem, appreciates both sides (as shown in her adult novels), and has carried over the underlying issues in what purports to be the diary of a "gentile" girl from the East who came West with her minister father to visit a crusading aunt. The stormy issues raised by her aunt's opposition to her knowing the "triple family" next door were met by Gerry's own determination to have her friends. While some of the boy-meets-girl aspects are a bit contrived to highlight both sides, the friendship between Gerry and Millie, of the Mormon family, is very well handled. Good reading. (LC: 54-11824)

Winston Adventure Series Winston
10/25 $1.50

Carmer, Carl- REBELLION AT QUAKER HILL - One of the best in a series that in the main has managed to sidestep the obvious and pick incidents in our national growth that have not been squeezed dry of their juice. This - by the co-editor of the series, and a writer who knows his Hudson Valley background thoroughly,- tells the story of the farmers' revolt in New York, some ten years before the American Revolution. The Prendergasts - Quaker maid and quick tempered Irishman - were deeply involved in the abortive attempt to protest the feudal system under which they operated their farms. Here is one of the first blows struck for a new society. A bit of true history, set against the Hudson River valley from Poughkeepsie to New York. Zestful line drawings by Harve Stein capture the spirit of the tale. (LC: 52-8966)

TWELVE TO FIFTEEN- Non-fiction

Asimov, Isaac Abelard-Schuman
THE CHEMICALS OF LIFE: $2.50
Enzymes - Vitamins - Hormones

This is a sound introduction to bio-chemistry, that infant science that is making a revolution in our understanding of how our bodies function. This book deals with those "chemicals that control the workings of living tissue" - the catalysts that make other chemicals function. Many of the questions are still unsolved, but the future answers will be built on the knowledge of those "chemicals of life" described here. While the presentation has somewhat the flavor of text book material, it is text book in the modern sense of direct, undramatized factual data. The audience interested in the subject- and their number is growing- wants it that way. Diagrams. Index. (11/12. LC: 54-10220)

Kendall, James Crowell
GREAT DISCOVERIES BY YOUNG CHEMISTS $3.00

This is built on a series of English lectures, revised, brought up to date, the material presented in narrative exposition, rather than lectures with experiments. In the sixteen years since the lectures were given, the field of chemistry has been revolutionized through the discovery of atomic fission. Further new chapters have been written through the establishment of chemical societies and chemical journals. And throughout the history of chemistry, youth has dominated. In America, to which an additional chapter is devoted, young American chemists have been encouraged and helped, and men like Robert Hare, Charles

Martin Hall, and Langmuir have made signal contribution. This is part history of chemical advance, largely biographical studies of men who in their youth contributed greatly to this advance:- Humphry Davy, Michael Faraday, Perkin, Couper, Kekule, Pasteur, Hoff, Arrhenius, Newlands, and others. While there is no particular fire or zest to the telling, this is material hard to come by elsewhere. (10/15. LC:54-10375)

Reinfeld, Fred — Crowell
COMMEMORATIVE STAMPS OF THE U.S.A. — $4.50

With specialization in stamp collecting even at an early stage, interest in commemorative issues has been on the increase. This is for that definitely specialized market. The data is intended to answer specific questions:- what does the stamp commemorate, and how does it contribute to knowledge of American history background; what do the stamps look like (there are actual photographs of everyone). Accompanying each photograph is the basic information, Scott catalog number, denomination, color, year of issue. There is an occasional hint as to rarity, but no indication as to value. A final chapter lists sources of designs. Here's one way to tie a hobby to history. The scope of coverage is wide:- historical events, personages, industrial events, regional recognition, famous Americans in the arts, tribute to the armed services, to overrun countries, and so on. The largest categories belong in the large commemorative sets. (10/15. LC: 54-5616)

Morgan, Alfred — Scribner
THE BOYS' FIRST BOOK OF RADIO AND ELECTRONICS — $2.75

From Hertz discovery of how to produce electric waves, through Marconi and Fessenden, this is first an historical record of the steps of development of radio and electronics, and then a how-to book for those aspiring to build their own. The ABC's of electricity, radio waves, electrons and electronics, radio tubes, feedback and regeneration, this is essential foundation material for the youthful radio builder. Morgan then goes on to discussion of the parts and materials involved in building one's own apparatus, and in successive final chapters, he discusses, step by step, the procedure of building. He takes first the simplest type of receiver sets; then one-tube regenerative receivers. He goes on to building an amplifier, to antenna and ground. And he ends with instructions on how to send and receive. The diagrams and charts are excellent. One could wish he would dispense with the human figures. The market is self-evident. Indexed. (10/25. LC: 54-8788)

Terrific Triple Titles — Franklin Watts
11/1/54 — $3.00

Hoke, Helen- *Selected by* - JOKES, JOKES, JOKES- I'm confessing in advance that this series has a hurdle to take in its title. *I* don't like it! Next- jokes, of the sort today's children find hilarious, don't strike my funnybone at all. So, when I found these sample pages (not a complete galley) abysmally boring, with nothing but the subheads occasioning a chuckle, I tried them out on (a) two parents of the young; (b) one 12-year old - and the best I could get was a rather grudging "Guess it's all right". Sorry- but there it is. It has something of everything, but many of the "jokes" seem to demand adult frames to carry their punch; some are a bit hoary with age; and goofy and zany ones demand their own frame of reference; and too large a number seemed forced. And yet- joke books and riddle books have their endless chain of advocates. Humorous sketches by Richard Erdoes will help offset what seems a very high price. (LC: 54-9827)

Lott, Milton — Houghton, Mifflin

THE LAST HUNT — $4.00

A novel of buffalo hunters, of Montana, Indians and rugged living traces the conflict between partners, accidentally thrown together - their project to slaughter buffalo in virgin land. While Charley's compulsion to kill deepens, Sandy's doubts grow, and the issue is called. They separate, but their paths cross again. A resolution of destinies against a setting of mountains, plains and valleys, filled with the rawness of the country, the men and their humor, and with a bitter knowledge of the waste. Not for tender skinned, maybe overloaded, but stirring and effective. Full report P. 500. (10/6. LC: 54-8695)

Seton, Anya — Houghton, Mifflin

KATHERINE — $3.95

Some parents- and librarians- may hesitate because this is a tale of illicit love between Chaucer's sister-in-law, convent bred Katherine, and Edward, third son of Edward III. Taking that hurdle in our stride, we feel that this is a distinguished book, backgrounded by a vivid picture of Chaucer's England, the 14th century, as it swung from magnificence to dire poverty. The Black Death swept social barriers aside; the peasants won short surcease from woe at the hands of the weakling boy king. Katherine was 15 when she was summoned to court and married to the ill-favored Sir Hugh, after her heart had been won by John. After Sir Hugh's mysterious death, this attraction flowered into a long-lived union, which ultimately ended in marriage after their souls had been cleansed by sorrow and penance. A moving tale. Full report P. 541. (Publ. LC: 53-9260)

Payne, Robert — A. A. Wyn

ALEXANDER THE GOD — $3.50

This retelling of Alexander's conquest opens with his descent on Tarsus, closes with his death in Babylon and chronicles his loves, hates, powers, fears and utter surrender to the fate foretold for him at Ammon. Prostitution and the love affairs are told as they played their part in the campaigns but there is full historical flavour to a book with a surging life that is in direct line from Graves' *I Claudius* and Payne's own *The Young Prince*. (Full report on p. 644. 10/21)

NON- FICTION FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Loeb, Robert H., Jr. — Association Press

HE-MANNERS — $2.95

Young Man's Book of Etiquette

This is more than just a propriety manual for its emphasis is on human relationships and the understanding of, accepting and adapting to personality differences which makes it valuable as a behavior blueprint. Areas covered for male modes of conduct are: speech (voice, vocabulary, conversation), correspondence, dating, table manners, dress (regular and sports), business, driving, engagement and wedding, and prejudice patterns of race, color and creed. The briefing on commonsense values is a working model for the avoidance of gaucheries and precedes the business of etiquette so that putting a best foot forward may be accomplished less awkwardly and the appearance of artificiality averted. He-man's language throughout might have its persuasion for the reluctant and Robert Yahn's black and whites guy the guys. Younger brothers might take a look. (10/25)

Arny, Mary Travis — Westminster

SEASONED WITH SALT — $3.50

A minister's daughter has written an enchanting book of family life in which tears and laughter succeed each other. A sampling of the incidents- the acquisition of a Victorian mansion complete with gingerbread, an overflow of animals, a wedding invitation list of 1200- set this for the *Cheaper by the Dozen* market. The locale is Montclair too. (Full report on p. 626. 11/8. LC: 54-9399)